

## Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SSM-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 AID-05 MCT-01 /081 W

----- 060309

R 091411Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9566

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMCONSUL PORT SAID

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 16968

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT EG

SUBJ: SECURITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON INTERNAL SITUATION

REF: CAIRO 16440

1. DURING COURSE OF DECEMBER 9 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFFS TO DISCUSS HIS RECENT DEA-SPONSORED VISIT TO US, DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERIOR RESPONSIBLE FOR PUBLIC SECURITY GENERAL MUSTAFA AL-SHEIKH TOUCHED ON NUMBER OF POLITICAL TOPICS.

2. IKHWAN. AL-SHEIKH SAID FACT THAT FORMER IKHWAN LEADER SALAH ABU RAQIQ IS MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF PRIMIN SALIM'S ARAB SOCIALIST PARTY DOES NOT SIGNIFY ANY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTY AND IKHWAN. HE SAID RAQIQ IS EX RPT EX IKHWAN LEADER.

HOWEVER, HE WAS OBVIOUSLY RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS IT.

3. HEGIRA AND ATONEMENT SOCIETY (REFTEL). AL-SHEIKH MENTIONED THIS GROUP UNPROMPTED AND SAID IT MUCH MORE DANGEROUS THAN IKHWAN. HE SAID SALAH RAQIQ HAD BEEN MOST USEFUL SINCE HE KNEW A LOT ABOUT IT. GROUP MEMBERS IN THE "HUNDREDS" AND COMES FROM  
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RELATIVELY POOR BUT EDUCATED PEOPLE AND INCLUDES DOCTORS,

ENGINEERS AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. THEY CONDEMN SOCIETY FOR NOT LIVING ACCORDING TO THE KORAN AND ADVOCATE GOING OFF INTO THE COUNTRYSIDE AND MOUNTAINS TO GATER UP ARMS AND RECRUITS. SOMEDAY, SOMEHOW THEY PLAN TO RETURN TO DESTROY THE EVIL SOCIETY. AL-SHEIKH EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE THEY ARE CONSIDERED DANGEROUS THEY ARE VEY FEW IN NUMBER.

4. AL-SHEIKH WENT ON TO SAY THAT BIGGEST PROBLEM FACING EGYPT (I.E. BY IMPLICATION MINISTRY OF INTERIOR) IS "CRITICAL" ECONOMIC SITUATION WHICH TOUCHES EVERYONE AND FORCES PEOPLE TO WORK EXTRA HARD JUST TO STAY EVEN. HE SUGGESTED MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITY WAS TO KEEP DOWN PRICE OF FOOD AND ACKNOWLEDGED IMPORTANCE OF US P.L.480 WHEAT SHIPMENTS. HE HAD NO SUGGESTIONS ABOUT TYPE OF MEASURES THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN TO HAVE QUICK IMPACT ON ECONOMIC SITUATION. HE DID, HOWEVER, DEPLORE THE FACT THAT EGYPTIANS WITH MONEY, AND "THRE ARE A LOT OF THEM AROUND", ARE RELUCTANT TO INVEST IN HOUSING AND OTHER NEEDED SECTORS.

5. LIBYA. THERE HAVE BEEN NO EECENT CASES OF LIBYAN SPONSORED SUB-VERSION.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, YOUTH GROUPS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976CAIRO16968  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760455-1098  
**From:** CAIRO  
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**Line Count:** 82  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 CAIRO 16440  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SECURITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON INTERNAL SITUATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, EG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006